

The Breeze

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Dukes sprint past Fordham

*Women advance to
quarterfinals after
77-61 win over Rams*



BRIAN PRESCOTT / THE BREEZE

Senior guard Tarik Hislop finished with eight points and two assists during Wednesday's big win in the WNIT.

By CHASE KIDDY
The Breeze

JMU's speed in transition and sharpshooting spurts made low-scoring Fordham very uncomfortable on Wednesday night in the Convocation Center.

From the jump the Dukes (25-10) blitzed Fordham, a team that has only allowed 51.6 points per game over the course of the season. No team had scored more than 68 on the Rams (26-9) all season, but the hot shooting of junior guard Kirby Burkholder and Rookie of the Year Precious Hall cracked that record and ended their season.

The game had barely tipped before Burkholder, now approaching 100 treys during this season alone, swished consecutive threes through the bottom of the net. Hardly any time had passed before Hall nailed another shot of her own, pushing the lead to 15-7 just five minutes into the game.

Burkholder finished the first half 3-4. Her hot shooting didn't seem sustainable, but she finished 6-10.

Hall provided a youthful energy of her own. As JMU was threatening to run away with the game seven minutes into the second half, Hall's long attempt from the corner hit the rim just short and bounced back into the hands of Fordham freshman Samantha Clark. Hall chased the rebound from the corner, ripping the rebound right from Clark's hands and laying the ball in for an easy two points.

It was that kind of night for Fordham.

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>> See the full story at
breezejmu.org.

3/28 INSIDE

A3 **NEWS**
Climate conflict
Locals protest Sen. Mark Warner's support for Keystone XL pipeline.

A5 **OPINION**
Bittersweet goodbye
Outgoing Breeze editors say their final farewells before moving on.

B1 **LIFE**
Firehouse talk
Look behind the scenes at HPD Firehouse No. 1 and the firefighters who run it.

B3 **SPORTS**
Fast ball
Dual-threat freshman pitcher Jaily Ford has a 1.55 ERA in 13 appearances.

No excuses

First quadruple amputee to
climb Mt. Kilimanjaro urges
students to persevere

By ERIC GRAVES
The Breeze

For Kyle Maynard, life without his hands and feet hasn't stopped him from being the first quadruple amputee to climb to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Maynard, 27, spoke to more than 300 students in Wilson Hall on Tuesday. In honor of Disability Awareness Week, he was invited by the JMU Office of Disability Services to share his story of hardship and triumph.

Maynard became a *New York Times* best-selling author, a mixed martial arts fighter and a winner of ESPN's Best Male Athlete with a Disability award in 2004 and 2012.

Maynard spoke about finding out the "why," or the reason someone is motivated to pursue a goal and how a person needs to stop making excuses that can prevent them from reaching that goal.

see **MAYNARD**, page A4



JAMES CHUNG / THE BREEZE

Disability Services expanding on a large and small scale to accommodate students



SEAN CASSIDY / THE BREEZE

Many areas around campus have been renovated to support students with physical disabilities.

By GARIN PAPPAS
contributing writer

The JMU Office of Disability Services is changing to better serve the needs of its students and the university.

Valerie Schoolcraft, director of Disability Services, has held discussions with both staff and students to determine what improvements needed to be made to the new location of the ODS.

The office plans to move to Constitution Hall in summer 2014. The move will place an assistive technology lab down the hall from the peer advocates, which will increase the number of labs from two to three.

The lab will help students with learning and vision disabilities by featuring voice to text, enlarged text, screen readers and nearby staff to provide instruction.

"This design does a nice job of dealing with the issues that we face in terms of confidentiality versus reducing stigma for people who face challenges with disabilities and how they feel about that," Schoolcraft said.

Schoolcraft said recognizing diversity and being proactive when planning for accessibility is necessary to develop an inclusive community.

Currently, the ODS is made up of four offices condensed in the top floors of Wilson Hall. Schoolcraft said JMU is an old, historic campus and Wilson Hall wasn't built to accommodate a majority of students with physical disabilities.

"We would design spaces intentionally that are open and flexible enough to be used as they are by the widest range of users, resulting in a reduced need for accommodations or something special for someone," Schoolcraft said.

Thomas Moran, professor of physical and health education, said he remembered when the elevator in Godwin Hall didn't have a sensor. Until it was fixed, it was very difficult to make his way into the elevator without it closing on him.

"A lot of it comes down to functionality because that's what going to send a message to JMU's students and future

see **DISABILITY**, page A4



Bringin' down the Co-op

Demolition has begun at the former Rockingham Cooperative at 101 W. Grace Street. JMU purchased the property in October 2010 for \$12 million. After conducting a feasibility study on the property, JMU determined the building would be too costly to renovate. The university decided to demolish the structure which will cost \$382,100. Once the demolition is complete in May the university plans to turn the space into additional parking.

SEAN CASSIDY / THE BREEZE

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IN ACTION

the **MADISON**
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Welcome SACSCOC April 2-4

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www.jmu.edu/qep

IN BRIEF

Harrisonburg
City to shut down intersection for road repairs

On Friday, Harrisonburg Public Works will be closing down the intersection of High and Wolfe Streets for construction.

Construction is set to start at 6 a.m. and continue until the road-work is completed.

Several bumps in the road will be removed and smoothed out across High Street. The road will then be repaved to make the road smooth.

Traffic on High Street will be restricted to one lane for both the north and south bound lanes.

More information can be found online at www.harrisonburgva.gov.

Virginia
Gov. McDonnell signs stricter voter registration laws

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell approved several legislations from Senate that will require all voters to present a photo identification at the polls, according to the *Richmond Times Dispatch*.

McDonnell said on Tuesday that he feels photo IDs are, "the best way to make sure that the person that's appearing at the poll is in fact who they say they are."

The bill, set to go into action in July of 2014, has to go through the U.S. Department of Justice for approval.

McDonnell said that voters would be able to get a free voters photo ID at the registrar's office.

Supporters of the bill say it will protect the integrity of the voting polls, while opposition to the bill says that it will make it difficult for minority and elderly voters to reach the polls.

Virginia Port Authority denies privatizing offers

The Virginia Port Authority refused to privatise the state's ports and coastal terminals, refusing offers worth billions of dollars, according to *The Richmond Times Dispatch*.

In a unanimous decision, the Port Authority board of commissions ended discussions with companies wanting to lease the ports for the next couple decades.

The authority aims to consolidate its programs and reduce costs by restructuring the Virginia International Terminals and putting the authority in more direct control.

Over \$41 billion in revenue is brought into the state through the Port Authorities' business, supporting over 345,000 jobs across the state.

Protesting the pipeline

Activists openly challenge Sen. Mark Warner on his approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline



By IJ CHAN
The Breeze

JMU students and Harrisonburg residents are joining the national fight against the Keystone XL pipeline.

The 2,147 mile long Keystone XL pipeline currently brings crude oil from Canada to the U.S. Midwest. A 1,700-mile long extension would carry the oil through to Texas. Many people nationwide are concerned that the installation of the pipeline would bring devastation to the environment by severely polluting the air, water and soil with excessive carbon emissions.

On Friday, Sen. Mark Warner publicly expressed support for Keystone XL's construction. In response, local environmental groups including the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, 350.org and the Sierra Club organized a protest in downtown Harrisonburg to meet Warner as he came into town for a business meeting at Clementine Cafe.

Emily Heffling, a campus organizer for CCAN, said the event is actually part of a series of planned protests that would follow Virginia lawmakers like Warner around the state and encourage them to give answers and take action against the Keystone XL.

"It's particularly important to target Sen. Warner because he claims to support climate action and approving the Keystone pipeline is not supporting climate action — it's the exact opposite," Heffling said. "We're making sure he actually sticks to his word and actually stands up for Virginians."

Holding signs that read "No KXL Pipeline" and small miniature windmills, the crowd circled around downtown on South



TRIXIE HADDON / THE BREEZE

TOP Protesters gathered yesterday afternoon to rally against the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline. **BOTTOM** Sen. Mark Warner stopped by downtown for a business meeting. He was immediately surrounded by protesters who demanded answers regarding his support of the pipeline.

Main Street chanting "Hey, Sen. Warner, the planet's getting warmer."

Upon Warner's arrival, the crowd surrounded him to demand the reason behind his vote. In his response, Warner began to mention the State Department's report on the pipeline, which found that it would "have no environmental harms."

But the rest of his answer was drowned out by protesters chanting, "Hey-hey, ho-ho,

Keystone Pipeline's got to go." Warner then appointed his chief of staff, Luke Albee, to lead an impromptu roundtable discussion about the issue.

Albee led about 50 of the protesters into a meeting room within the Massanutten Regional Library. Participants were given the chance to voice their concerns and ask

see **PROTEST**, page A4

SGA encourages transparency in campus affairs

Resolution promotes increased involvement and input from students and faculty in major university decisions



TRIXIE HADDON / THE BREEZE

Matt Klein, student body president said that the SGA is focusing on making students' voices heard and encouraging a transparent relationship with the JMU administration.

By ERIC GRAVES
The Breeze

In the wake of presidential controversy at the University of Virginia over the summer, JMU's SGA is promoting communication among students, faculty and education officials.

In February, SGA passed Senate Resolution 22, a bill specifically worded to encourage "transparency of governance" in higher education.

The resolution was brought about after U.Va. president Teresa Sullivan stepped down after an alleged ousting scheme by rector Helen Dragas in June of last year.

Dragas allegedly met with the U.Va. Board of Visitors behind closed doors when this decision was made.

Matt Klein, student body president of JMU, was contacted by the executive council of U.Va. after the investigation of Sullivan's resignation. He and other Virginia universities were asked to take on the initiative of promoting transparency.

"We've seen how a lack of transparency at other universities can be destructive," Klein said. "We didn't want to take their initiative about their university, so we asked how can we use it for JMU."

Speaker of the Faculty Senate David McGraw believes JMU could definitely use more transparency in the administration.

"When President [Jon] Alger was hired, the presidential search was not transparent," McGraw said. "We were not allowed to know anything until it was already decided. It's tricky, but I

think having more faculty involvement and student voice would always be better in that type of situation."

McGraw said that in the past the administration has been much worse on the transparency issue. He felt that President Ronald Carrier usually announced his decisions to the faculty after they had been decided. President Linwood Rose was more open, but could have been better, he said.

"Alger, however, showed that he really wants to be transparent with everyone from day one," he said. "The first thing he did was more open search for a new provost. The whole community got to hear the candidates speak and take everyone's idea into consideration."

Student opinions aren't always taken into account in decisions made by school administrators and state government officials. Transparency between these groups is what SGA hopes to improve.

"We promote transparency every day by being liaisons between administration and students," said Shevy Chaganti, junior international affairs and Spanish double major. "We want to make sure everyone knows where students stand on things. There's a lot of lives that can be affected."

Freshman Gina Moore believes the initiative is worthwhile and that involvement in this bill is in the best interest of students.

"You want your students to feel like they have an input in what the people who run their lives and environments will do," Moore said. "If they say, 'Hey I don't like this,' they can do something

about it."

Moore said the initiative will encourage more people to be more proactive in JMU's dealings and delicate decisions.

"It's good for us to know what's going on — in training to be citizens of the United States," she said. "College is a controlled setting, and here is your chance to be an active citizen and see how you will react to information you're given."

Jessica Morris, a senior sociology major and speaker of the Student Senate, said that the resolution was a way for JMU to make the need for communication known on campus.

"Why wouldn't students want to know what was going on?" Morris said. "Students have their rights just as much as faculty to have their voices heard. If they don't know what's going on then that's an injustice as a public university."

SGA isn't doing anything specific to forward the initiative, according to Klein, but amplifying students voices is a goal SGA is actively working on promoting.

"As we are listening to administrators, we are listening to students," Klein said. "We are having several JMU Speak opportunities across the campus. We are bringing the student perspectives to the different areas of government."

Klein referenced the SGA town hall meetings, open forums and debates as all ways that SGA is encouraging transparency.

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MAYNARD

'Not dead, can't quit'

PROTEST

Group talks change

from front

“You can look at me and tell that I was born just a little bit different,” Maynard said. “The nature of the excuses is disabling. The only true disabilities that exist are the ones we allow in our lives. That ‘why’ question, why are we here on this planet, is a powerful one.”

Born without hands and feet from a condition known as congenital amputation, Maynard made history by climbing to the “Roof of Africa,” Mt. Kilimanjaro. He traveled with several experienced climbers and his best friend on a two-week trek to the peak of the mountain.

“For the first few days it was all right, I was having fun and joking around with my friends,” Maynard said. “Then around the fifth day, my arms and legs were swollen from crawling up the mountain. I didn’t think I could make it.”

Wearing specialty ice picks and snowshoes on his limbs, Maynard said that he became too tired to secure his picks firmly and fell down the ice. He was saved by one of his fellow climbers.

Maynard explained that the trip to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro was more than just a world record. He had met a mother while on the road whose son was killed in combat saving other Marines.

“She made me promise to bring her son’s ashes to the summit,” Maynard said. “I

cried myself to sleep some nights because I thought I was going to break that promise. I kept going, chanting a mantra I learned from a Navy SEAL, ‘Not dead, can’t quit.’ And finally, I reached the top.”

Gina Oddi, a senior kinesiology major, volunteered to help with the presentation. One of her friends required ODS assistance after a surgery two summers ago, something that helped her connect better with Maynard.

“Just hearing someone’s story with a disability and hearing about them doing something that epic is just awesome,” Oddi said. “It’s different seeing someone who was born with the disability and seeing how they overcame it. It’s really cool to see that they aren’t at all different from anyone else.”

Maynard was inspired and driven by his parents to be as independent as possible. He remembers some of the hardest challenges he faced were in his early life and childhood.

“When I was 10 years old, my family made a big move,” Maynard said. “I didn’t make friends right away, I was bullied a bit. I felt very alone and isolated. I would cry myself to sleep and think, ‘Am I ever going to be able to live on my own? Will I be dependent on my family forever?’”

Starting when he was 11, Maynard joined the wrestling team. Using ground techniques, he eventually went

on to win 36 varsity wrestling matches his senior year of high school, defeating several state champions.

Kristina Mohler, a first-year sport and recreation leadership graduate student, said the presentation inspired her to take Maynard’s influence to heart.

“He was very passionate about the things he was talking about,” Mohler said. “As he said, you really have to find your ‘why’ and not make any more excuses.”

When Maynard was 15, he still had to be dressed by his parents. He described the first time he put on his socks by himself, a process that took almost 45 minutes.

Maynard talked about how he has adapted to his disability and is able to do many tasks someone without a disability can, including driving, texting, writing and exercising.

Maynard challenged the crowd to think of one excuse that they had used in the past that prevented them from doing something they wanted to do.

“We want to go out and change the world,” Maynard said. “What limits do actually exist? Unless we get rid of all of the excuses, we will never get anywhere. How different would this campus be if everyone here said, ‘Today these excuses die in my seat?’”

CONTACT Eric Graves at breezejmu@gmail.com.



TRIXIE HADDON / THE BREEZE

Luke Albee, Sen. Warner’s chief of staff, met with a group of about 50 protesters in the Massanutten Regional Library. He assured the group that he would take their concerns to Warner after the meeting.

from page A3

questions, all of which would go to Warner through Albee.

Environmental activist April Moore said the issue of climate change and the pipeline isn’t just a Virginia-exclusive battle.

“It affects everything we care about,” Moore said. “So whatever we care about, we should care about climate change.”

Moore said the State Department report Warner had previously referred to was actually funded and conducted by companies who have an interest in the Keystone Pipeline, and so it was biased and unfair.

Ruth Jost of Harrisonburg said the installation of the pipeline is wrong, adding that allowing the the construction of the pipeline is just as immoral.

“The XL Pipeline actually involves bringing filthy oils into great numbers,” Jost said. “Even if we think there’s somebody else who will do the immoral thing, that’s not a reason for us to do the immoral thing.”

The pipeline, Jost said, is only one of the many environmental issues that need immediate attention like global warming.

According to Jost, the climate temperature is predicted by scientists to increase by six degrees within the next 100 years. This, she said, can’t be compatible with human life ,and efforts to stop it have been long overdue.

“It is happening now, it is accelerating now and we are accelerating it,” Jost said. “We have to have political leaders who are looking at that reality. We won’t make it if people like Mark Warner don’t stand up.”

Joy Loving of Grottoes said having Warner’s support is crucial to having the movement go forward.

“Sen. Warner is in a unique position in bringing Virginia together and the Senate,” Loving said. “He’s got a very strong voice and that’s why I’m here today, to ask him, ‘Please lead on this! We need him.’”

Bruce Ritchie, a landscaper from Criders, Va., thinks that Americans should return to a simpler lifestyle for the sake of the environment and stop recklessly wasting and using energy.

“Society should get back to carpooling. Now we’ve gotten into all these bad habits — we

drive on a whim just about anywhere,” Ritchie said. “We’ve really got to turn these bad habits around. It’s no easy task, but we haven’t even started yet. We’re in pretend mode — that our old ways will continue to work and they won’t.”

Elise Benusa, a senior international affairs major, said JMU needs to do a better job of educating students about climate issues.

“I think there’s a lot more that we can do and I think it has to do with education — I don’t think we’re very good at educating our students,” Benusa said. “We should all have to take a mandatory environmental class that’s interactive and relative.”

She added that environmental issues like the pipeline should draw the concern of the whole JMU community.

“If everyone breathes air and drinks water, then everyone should be coming here and knowing about this issue,” Benusa said. “It’s about our kids and our kids’ future. It’s really, to me, all very connected.”

CONTACT IJ Chan at breezejmu@gmail.com.

DISABILITY

ODS relocating

from front

students about the campus’ accessibility,” said Moran, who has cerebral palsy.

He said he’s excited for future innovations so prospective students will choose JMU for its accessibility.

Emily Taylor is the president of Harrisonburg’s Best Buddies chapter, an international non-profit organization that works with individuals with intellectual disabilities by developing personal relationships. Taylor, a senior inclusive early childhood major, believes that there can be negative impressions

when people talk about those who are disabled.

“It’s called ‘people-first’ language whenever you are saying anything about someone with any type of disability,” Taylor said. “They are a ‘person who has autism’ instead of an ‘autistic person.’”

Keri Vandenberg, a sophomore social work major, works as one of three peer access advocates who are also registered with the disabilities office.

Peer access advocates serve as mentors for students registered with the office and are in charge of publicity, including

organizing disabilities awareness week, according to Vandenberg.

“Our disabilities services is the best thing that ever happened to me as a person with a disability,” Vandenberg said.

When she returns to visit JMU she wants to see acceptance of diversity, but especially direct action.

“It’s important to take that extra step and hold that door open for someone in a chair, not just be OK with them being in a chair,” Vandenberg said.

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THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS CONGRATULATE ITS OUTSTANDING STUDENTS FOR 2013!

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Opinion

EDITOR Jessica Williams EMAIL breezeopinion@gmail.com

Thursday, March 28, 2013

A5

A fond farewell

Departing staff members reminisce on their time at *The Breeze*



Maddie Wigle

Chase Kiddy

Margie Currier

Torie Foster

Jeff Wade

Greer Drummond

Laken Smith

What the hell am I going to do now?

I find it hard to reflect back on my time at *The Breeze* because I feel like I've been working here forever (I guess almost four years is sort of like forever).



I will always admire your honesty, your intelligence and wit, but also your empathy. Also, I will always admire your gravel-y voice.

Margie: I don't think I can express how much I appreciate the work you've

done, not just because you're talented, but because you put so much energy into everything you do, and always with a smile.

Greer: Your consistently positive attitude amazes me and inspires me each day. You came in and gave it your all every day, and it means so much to me that you did. Laken: You didn't work here quite as long as most, but even in such little time, you made a huge impact. I will miss hearing your bubbly laugh on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Anne: I am so proud of everything you've accomplished in such a short time at *The Breeze*, and I know you will only do great things as you lead *The Breeze* and Port & Main. Dylan: You are one of the kindest people I've met, and you're also almost always one

of the last people here. Your dedication is astounding.

IJ: Keep doing your thing. You're a rock star, and your perseverance will take you far. Eric and Liz: Learn as much as possible from IJ, and keep working hard.

Sean: I have always admired your natural leadership skills and your quiet determination to do your very best. Just don't forget about Torie Foster Pumped Up Kicks when you become a successful editor-in-chief. Matt: Ehhh, I guess you're OK. Just kidding; I have always enjoyed our conversations, and I so appreciate your positive attitude and your willingness to help out, always.

Jessica: Your tweets will always entertain me. I appreciate your unique perspective on the world and your

meticulousness. Also, your ability to speak in accents.

Chase: What can I say aside from sorry about the paper cut? Seriously, though, you're a gifted writer, and I can only see great things in your future. Wayne: I see a lot of drive in you, which is becoming rare in the world, and you have so much talent. I'm excited to see what you'll do.

Maddie: Your positivity and love of life is infectious, and they're things that will always inspire me. Thanks for the rides and trips to Dukes! Bradford: I will seriously miss your incessant energy and your laughter. You're one-of-a-kind, my friend!

Thanks to Charlene, Martha, Mike and Roger for everything you've done for me and for *The Breeze*. Brad: You've

been more than just an adviser to me; you've been a mentor and a friend. Thanks for listening and for the riveting manager's meetings.

To the incoming staff: Best of luck! Take advantage of your time here, learn constantly and enjoy yourselves. One day, it'll be over and you won't know what to do with yourself.

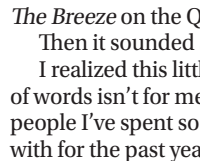
Of course, I'll always be nearby if you need me. Just look for the girl sobbing around campus on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Torie Foster
Editor-in-chief

Torie Foster

Are we having pizza today?

When I first started writing this, it was hard to find the words to begin. I thought about delving into my past and describing a picturesque scene of my 18-year-old self, reading



The Breeze on the Quad. Then it sounded stupid. I realized this little snippet of words isn't for me, but for the people I've spent so much time with for the past year at *The Breeze*. Sure, not every lunch day is pizza day and sometimes all I want to do is take a nap on my desk, but this quirky little newsroom has become my second home, and my coworkers my family. I want to thank all of you for everything you've taught me and tell you that I truly cherish the friends I've made. Working at The

Breeze has been one of the most rewarding experiences during my time at JMU. It's not always easy, but there is much more joy than aggravation.

I'll miss all your sharp punny tongues and office pranks played. Greer — you're my girl. Sean — I couldn't have asked for a greater friend. Jeff — you're my twin separated at birth. Torie — you're perfect. Chase — I can't wait to read your books. Anne and Dylan — you've got to love them. Maddie — you're my mountain soul sister. Jessica — go for the knees, kid. And the rest of my motley crew — you are all brilliant and I want to tell you how much I love you and have enjoyed working with all of you. Stay cool and never change.

Margie Currier
Design Editor

Margie Currier

May the force be with you

I tried to write something touching and clever, but perhaps



gathered from being a student at JMU, working at *The Breeze* and life in general.

You can be too drunk at a tailgate. Do your laundry and buy groceries. If you don't have a meal plan, get FLEX or Dining Dollars. Go hiking as often as possible and bring a map. Call a cab when you need one.

Pick up after your pets. Don't throw away your Mappy. Take the bus for a semester. Say "hello" and "thank you" to housekeepers and maintenance workers. Stick with jobs and projects you've

committed to. Hold the door open for the person behind you.

If you open a bar tab, close it. Over tip breakfast waitresses. Go to the Arboretum and on-campus art galleries. Visit the Rt. 11 Potato Chip factory. Make your bed and look up the weather every morning.

Also, thank you to all of *The Breeze* staff: Brad, Martha, Charlene, the ads staff and ad designers! Editorial dawgs: I love you all, you've been my rock this year and our camaraderie shows every production day and budget meeting. Good luck to the incoming staff and to those graduating. Margie, you're my hobo for life.

May the force be with you, always.

Greer Drummond
Life Editor

Greer Drummond

How I managed to manage

There's a line in the exquisite Dismemberment Plan's song "The City" that has for the last four years always elicited a chuckle from me.



As lead singer Travis Morrison contemplates where he fits into modern life, among the angst that only comes with being

uncertain in your mid 20s, he drolly intones that he "Feels like the breeze could pick me up and carry me away."

He had no way of knowing how true that was.

I've been involved with *The Breeze* from the moment that I stepped onto campus. What followed was a four-year whirlwind filled with dozens of articles and hundreds of issues that have added up to the most essential experience of my college career.

Everything I've done here in this seemingly-quiet office, hidden away in a far away corner of campus, has made me a better writer and a better person, with almost everything meaningful I've learned at college has come from here.

Of course the late hours have forged some of the best friendships that you could ever ask for. I couldn't even begin to list them all, but everyone from my first, patient editors Drew Beggs and Rachel Doizer, partner in crime Laura Weeks, the adjective-defying Robert Boag, design extraordinaire Margie Currier and the incomparable editor-in-chief Torie Foster are just some of the few that have made every production day and budget meeting a treat.

And of course my adored Jen Faherty, who has put up with frustrations and complications that come with working anywhere for four years. And that isn't even counting everyone who has given my carless self a ride in the last four years.

There's little I can offer to the new staff in terms of advice. You'll all figure that out on your own. But go ahead. Let it carry you away.

Jeff Wade
Managing Editor

Jeff Wade

Just a guy, living the dream

I will never forget my first "oh, s---" moment working with *The Breeze*. I was grabbing a drink



with friends at Dave's early last year when another JMU student came up to me and asked me for an

autograph. Me. He and his dad read my sports commentary column every week and he recognized me from my headshot in the paper. It's moments like those that stay with you when you write for public consumption like I have these past two years. I am so appreciative of anyone who's ever read my columns or built me up to be anything more than what I am — just a guy that loves to watch sports and talk about stuff, on or away from the barstool.

I'm obligated here to pass along a special thanks to David Barton, Carleigh Davis and Traci Zimmerman, without whom none of this would be possible.

Now, to *The Breeze* staff: I am well aware that I drive you all crazy and that there have likely been numerous plots to kill me. I thank you for settling on merely replacing me with a tree from time to time.

Anne, you've been a great sport about keeping me honest, even if you have a maddening tendency to blunt all my best one-liners.

Margie, I don't know how you'll survive without my early-evening backrubs; I'm not sure how I'll survive without you.

Last, a heartfelt thank you to my co-editor, Wayne Epps Jr. I had serious reservations when you became editor just two or three weeks into your freshman year of college. But I couldn't have been more wrong — you're 10 times the journalist that I will ever be. I honestly couldn't have asked for a better partner to close out my college career.

Chase Kiddy
Sports Editor

Chase Kiddy

See ya later, y'all

"The Quad" is always capitalized, but majors aren't. Adviser is spelled with an 'e' and contractions are encouraged.



As the life editor, I've learned a lot about "Breeze style." And it's more

than a rule found in the AP stylebook.

It's knowing that staff members are frequently referred to by their section instead of their first name, and knowing that on Wednesdays, we prefer pizza to lo mein.

It's teamwork and drive. It's an energy. It's a passion for the process, not just the product. And it's a love for people — in the newsroom, at JMU and in the Harrisonburg community.

And even though *Breeze* style insists on avoiding clichés, I have to say I've been so motivated and inspired by the people I've worked with at *The Breeze*.

Laken Smith
Life Editor

Laken Smith

Editorial Policies

The Breeze welcomes and encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters and guest columns. Letters must be no longer than 250 words. Guest columns must be no more than 650 words.

The Breeze reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar and if material is libelous, factually inaccurate or unclear. *The Breeze* assumes the rights to any published work. Opinions expressed in this page, with the exception of editorials, are not necessarily those of *The Breeze* or its staff.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable) and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.

The Breeze

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"To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses, the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression."

— JAMES MADISON, 1800

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CAROLINE KELLY |piece of mind

Death to DOMA: The Supreme Court needs to end it

With only five votes necessary to overturn this discriminatory bill, it's time for the court to start uniting America instead of dividing it

In the midst of the protests happening this week, one thing is clear: It's time for the Supreme Court to take down DOMA.

In 1996, the Clinton administration signed DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act, striking a heavy blow against marriage equality. The bill limited federal benefits to homosexual couples, which, among other things, meant that even in states where gay marriage is now legal, those couples still don't get all the same rights and benefits as a straight married couple.

Edith Windsor found that out in 2009 when her partner of more than 40 years died after a long battle with multiple sclerosis. She was treated as the executor of the state, rather than the surviving spouse, and had to pay more than \$360,000 in estate taxes.

Even though the couple had been married in Canada and lived in New

York, one of only nine states where gay marriage is legal, Windsor was hit with estate taxes that the surviving spouse of a straight marriage would have been exempt from, thanks to DOMA. So she took it to court on the grounds that DOMA represents unconstitutional discrimination.

This is something that has been going on for far too long, and with only five votes necessary to overturn it, now is the time to put an end to it.

How did a discriminatory law that allows some citizens their legal rights, and denies them others manage to last so long in the first place? A law that looks at two couples and slaps one grieving widow with more than a quarter-million-dollar fine while allowing the other to inherit without it isn't just.

Another equally intolerable part of DOMA is that it gives states that

don't allow gay marriage the legal standing not to recognize any gay marriages, even those carried out in other states. Last I checked, we were supposed to be a nation "with liberty and justice for all," not "liberty and justice for only some people in certain places."

Can you imagine how ridiculous it would be if some states suddenly decided to stop legally recognizing driver's licenses from other states? If you were suddenly pulled over and subjected to a ticket for driving without one, even when you had that same perfectly valid license in your hand?

A marriage license and a driver's license are both government-issued documents that allow you to do certain things. Why should one be given less legal recognition than the other?

DOMA's very defining principle is discriminatory and unconstitutionally rooted in

Last I checked, we were supposed to be a nation "with liberty and justice for all," not "liberty and justice for only some people in certain places."

religious bias. There's no legal reason to assert that marriage should mirror the Christian heteronormative ideal. A same-sex marriage, a straight marriage, a Christian marriage, Hindu marriage or Atheist marriage may differ wildly, but they all have one thing in common: a legal document allowing them the same rights. When one group is receiving less of those, something has gone wrong with the system.

Paul Clement, representing the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group, has been defending the law. He fears that DOMA's defeat "would harm the House's concrete interests by permanently nullifying its passage of DOMA and subjecting future legislative action to a heightened standard of equal protection review." Oh, no. How terrible.

Who would want to live in a world where laws are held to a higher standard of equality for all citizens, instead of favoring only some for arbitrary and legally questionable reason? That would be a disaster.

The outcome of the case seems quietly optimistic. Overturning DOMA wouldn't be the finish line, but it's definitely a checkpoint on the way there.

Caroline Kelly is a senior English major. Contact Caroline at kellyce@dukes.jmu.edu.

DARTS & PATS

Darts & Pats are anonymously submitted and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth. Submit Darts & Pats at breezejmu.org

A **"look-both-ways"** dart to all the pedestrians who cross in the middle of the road without giving so much as a glance to traffic.

From a driver who was able to avoid you but might not be so lucky next time.

A **"nice"** pat to the kind stranger in the parking lot who saw me struggling to get ice off my windshield, offered to help and took his time to make sure my car was 100-percent ice free.

From a woman who is now convinced chivalry still exists.

A **"thanks-for-making-my-lunch-better"** pat to the guy

playing some great songs to the people eating and relaxing in TDU last Friday.

From a girl who enjoyed singing along to "Wagon Wheel" with you and practically the whole audience.

A **"she-said-yes!"** pat to my fiancée for accepting my proposal on the Kissing Rock.

From an alumnus who is ecstatic that the Kissing Rock tradition held true.

A **"respect-other-people's-snow-day"** dart to the guys in the intense snowball fight on the Quad.

From a group of really unhappy women who were just trying to

build a snowman and got caught in the crossfire.

A **"thank-you-don't-come-again"** dart to the Chinese restaurant down the street for messing up our lo mien order, trying to make us pay twice for the original order, then showing up awkwardly five minutes later to ask for the beef and broccoli back.

From a hungry college student who hopes you don't try to resell that to another hungry student.

An **"I-saw-that"** dart to the tall blonde leaving Market One with some "free" coffee.

From a Duke who knows karma will strike soon enough.

A **"that's-the-Duke-Dog-way"** pat to the Good Samaritan who turned in my JACard before I even realized it was lost.

From a junior who is the middle of a sea of projects and is grateful she didn't have to worry about a

lost card on top of it all.

A **"best-wishes"** pat to all of the outgoing editors at *The Breeze*.

From a freshman who's thankful to have gotten the opportunity to work with you.

A **"look-at-your-life-look-at-your-choices"** dart to the guy I heard saying he dropped a class he was failing and that he doesn't care.

From a student whose parents would kill her if she ever thought about dropping a class this late in the semester.

A **"summer-come-soon"** dart to all of the cold weather.

From a woman who is longing for the sunshine and short shorts.

A **"you're-my-favorite-couple"** pat to the Quad Cats.

From a woman who saw you cuddling the other day and wishes her boyfriend was that sweet.

A **"remember-me-fondly"** pat to my family.

From a student who is spending his first Easter away from home and will be heating up some Ramen noodles instead of a home-cooked ham.

A **"gee-whiz-mister"** dart to the man who said my skirt was too short and I should put on some pants.

From a woman who is pretty sure it isn't the 1950s anymore.

An **"I-can't-believe-you-did-that"** dart to the guy who chewed the cap of the pen I let him borrow.

From the woman who gave you a death glare when you handed it back.

A **"really?"** dart to the couple I saw making out on a bench in the mall.

From a hopeless romantic whose idea of the perfect date isn't going at it in front of dozens of people.



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PREPPING for the BLAZE



JAMES CHUNG / THE BREEZE

TOP HFD Station 1 is located on Maryland Avenue across from Keister Elementary School. It is one of four stations in Harrisonburg. **LEFT** An antique fire extinguisher from 1940 decorates the station entryway. **RIGHT** Luke Walker exits the firetruck before attending an in-classroom training session.

A closer look at the training, protocols and obstacles local firefighters face daily

By **JULIAN KLINE**
contributing writer

Three short tones, the emergency medical type, an address and an alarm. They need to get to the scene in fewer than six minutes.

Last year, Station 1 of the Harrisonburg Fire Department, across from Keister Elementary on Central Avenue, had 3,034 calls, coming out to about eight a day. Of those calls, 1,101 were for the ladder truck and 1,933 were for the fire engine — not that there's always a fire.

"There was that time we got a cow out of an underground water vault," said firefighter Ian Rudolph. "Awhile back there was this charter bus on 81 at 4 a.m., and no one spoke English. That one was pretty crazy."

Lt. Rick Manning began volunteering in 1974 and has been a full-time firefighter for 34 years.

"I worked in a factory once for three months — it just wasn't for me," Manning

said.

The hard work of firefighting is more than physical; the emotional burden of helping people through their crisis is a challenge in itself.

"When you do this job you separate yourself out," Manning said. "Even though we deal with people, they're objects. They can be screaming in pain but you can't hear it, you pull up and do your job. Kids are worse than adults, though."

Rudolph said they don't like to talk about calls that aren't "nice to see."

There are four fire stations in Harrisonburg, each with people assigned to a 24-hour shift every three days. There isn't much downtime for firefighters. There's assigned cleaning, required cardio (30 minutes a day), keeping up the equipment, then three kinds of daily training: fire, HAZMAT and emergency medical.

The maintenance and training is put to the test with occasional field tests where buildings are purposefully burned down to allow firemen to learn how to control the blaze. JMU sometimes offers newly purchased, soon-to-be demolished buildings to the HFD for such learning opportunities.

Putting fires out requires a massive amount of resources in addition to the firefighters' energy. Fighting a fire requires a virtually endless supply of water. When there isn't a hydrant, they draft water from any nearby lake or swimming pool.

"The water tanks need to stay full at all times," said firefighter Shawn Brown. "That's 500 gallons, and when we pump from a hydrant or drafting, it goes at about 1,500 gallons per minute."

But water isn't the only thing you'll find

see **HFD**, page B2

EMILY WINTERS

foodie on a dime

Spring clean eating

The cool temperatures and snow may not exactly scream "spring," but the longer and warmer days are here, and spring crops are popping up.

Produce like spring onions, arugula, kale, carrots and asparagus are showing up on tables at the farmers market again. The

increasing availability of a wider variety of fresh, local produce makes this the perfect time of year to reconnect with healthy eating and take advantage of the plentiful harvests the Shenandoah Valley has to offer.

The Harrisonburg Farmers Market will go back to its longer hours starting April 2 with its Tuesday market from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will also be open from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays again, instead of the winter hours of 9 a.m. to noon.

The spring vegetables make it easier to move away from the comfort foods of winter and into the lighter, refreshing meals of spring and summer.

Here are a couple of my favorite recipes to make as the weather warms up.

Risotto with asparagus, lemon, peas and parsley

Risotto is a type of Italian rice that you cook in a broth to make it smooth and creamy. It's great with any type of vegetable mixed in, and maybe some bacon or ham if you want to add something extra. The combo of the creamy rice with the fresh spring vegetables is a good way to bridge the gap between winter and spring.

Roasted potatoes and spring vegetables

Potatoes, whether sweet, fingerling, red or the traditional Yukon gold, are typically available year-round at the market. Roast some in the oven with spring produce like garlic, carrots and onions and you've got a quick and simple meal. If you mix in some goat cheese when it's warm out of the oven, it'll be even better.

Grilled cheese with arugula and tomato

While local tomatoes won't be ready until the middle of the hot summer months, arugula and other greens are available now. Grilled cheese is extremely versatile so you can really use whatever you have in your fridge, but the bitterness of the arugula makes a nice contrast with your favorite cheese.

Salad with kale, parmesan cheese, lemon and red pepper

Kale has gotten a lot of attention recently as a super food because it packs a lot of nutrients into a serving. Any combination of kale, nuts, cheese and other fresh produce make a great, light spring dinner.

Pizza crackers

If you don't have dough or know where to buy it, this option lets you enjoy pizza without the hassle. You can put your favorite ingredients on top and either drizzle it with some olive oil or a little bit of pasta sauce.

Emily Winters is a senior media arts and design and sociology double major. Contact Emily at winterer@dukes.jmu.edu.

ALBUM REVIEW

Different Strokes for different folks

By **JACK KNETEMANN**
The Breeze

The Strokes may have changed their perspective, but it's still seen through a pair of aviators.

While most bands nowadays busy themselves with finding a vibe or an aesthetic, The Strokes have a personality. On "Comedown Machine," each song, even the disparate ones, is played with so much nonchalance it's hard to imagine the band members weren't lying on the floor while recording it.

The Strokes, especially guitarists Nick Valensi and Albert Hammond Jr., are virtuosos of their craft, but virtuosos don't normally sound this relaxed. It takes finesse to make the busy guitar lines found on "Chances" breathe. The guitarists make each

The Strokes
Comedown Machine
★★★★★
Released March 26

track interesting, especially the delicate "80s Comedown Machine."

The Strokes have always been somewhat casual, but "Comedown Machine" finds the band exploring areas far from its mid-tempo sweet spot. The album features a ballad, "Chances," that finds singer Julian Casablancas bordering on sentimental. This is a different approach for the often aloof singer, especially in the falsetto he uses in "Chances" and in "One Way Trigger."

Casablancas' performance sums up the strengths and weaknesses of the album. He's a magnetic singer, one that doesn't have to put in

much work to command attention. "Comedown Machine" remains purposeful throughout, but it never quite brings it on home. Casablancas remains in control while expanding beyond his usual range, even if the new turns can't quite manage to capture the urgency of The Strokes' classic albums "Is This It?" and "Room on Fire."

The Strokes will probably never lose their cool, but the band isn't afraid to make mistakes. "One Way Trigger" is built around a synth that sounds more like mariachi music than garage rock, but the band places the bizarre effect within its constantly propulsive rhythm section, and it works. There's only one strange turn that's a dud: the closer, "Call it Fate, Call it Karma." "Karma" sees The Strokes attempting something close to gypsy jazz, an undertaking



COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS

The Strokes have released five albums since 2001's "The Modern Age" EP.

that works about as poorly as the idea sounds.

It's a scatterbrained record, but The Strokes are comfortable juggling guises. Though their gambles don't always hit the jackpot, they remain in control through it all. Some fans may wish that The Strokes had stayed closer to their defined sound, but

"Under Cover of Darkness" isn't going anywhere. It's a necessary and refreshing move for the band to expand. On "Comedown Machine," The Strokes managed to branch out while staying true to themselves.

CONTACT Jack Knetemann at knetemjw@dukes.jmu.edu.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK THURS.-SUN.

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28	29	30	31
<p>“Ray” screening Part of the Office of Disability’s fourth annual Disability Awareness Week 6 p.m. Transitions, Warren Hall Free.</p> <p>Taste of Forbes: An Arts and Foodie Event Features three 20-minute music and theatre/dance presentations in three Forbes venues followed by a reception 6:30 p.m. Forbes Center for the Performing Arts \$35 with JACard.</p> <p>The Giving Tree Band concert (acoustic folk/rock) 9-11:30 p.m. Clementine Cafe \$8.</p>	<p>UREC bouldering trip Open to all interested in rock climbing, no previous knowledge or skills required; equipment provided but wear sneakers and bring one-to-two liters of water 2 p.m. Meet in UREC lobby \$15 FLEX only, register with UREC by 11 p.m. Thursday.</p> <p>Logic and Reasoning Institute colloquium Elizabeth Brown, JMU professor of math and statistics, presents “Outreach Questions in Mathematical Logic” 3:30 p.m. Roop Hall 208 Free.</p>	<p>Club Fencing tournament Cheer on the JMU Fencing Club during the two-day tournament Saturday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday 12-7p.m. UREC main gym Free.</p> <p>American Shakespeare Center presents “Henry VII” by William Shakespeare Blackfriars Playhouse hosts performances under original, simple staging conditions 7:30 p.m. 10 S. Market St., Staunton \$22-42 through americanshakespearecenter.com.</p> <p>William Walter and Dane Alderson (rock) concert 9-11:30 p.m. Clementine Cafe \$8.</p>	<p>Easter sunrise service RISE hosts interdenominational Easter Sunrise Worship Service on the Arboretum main lawn 6 a.m. Edith J. Carrier Arboretum Free.</p> <p>Cross Keys Vineyard Easter brunch Buffet menu by executive chef Mike Goff 12-3 p.m. E. Timber Ridge Rd., Mt. Crawford \$45/person, call 540-234-0505 for reservations (required).</p> <p>The Judy Chops (folk/rock) with Lost Indian (old time) 9 p.m. Blue Nile \$5.</p>



HFD | ‘It’s like my second family here’



JAMES CHUNG | THE BREEZE

Firefighters use the kitchen to make meals during 24-hour shifts.



SEAN CASSIDY and BECKY SULLIVAN | THE BREEZE

A snowy start to spring

Sunday and Monday’s snowstorm was a pleasant surprise for many. Students tapped into their “inner child” by building snowmen, sledding down Harrisonburg’s hills and enjoying their day off.

TOP James Madison seized the opportunity to try an “Old Man Winter” look, but ultimately decided to keep his classic, clean-shaven face. LEFT Sophomores Aidan Ciavarra and Kelly Bunting sled with junior Emily Throckmorton on a hill near the Convocation Center. RIGHT Senior Ryan Pitts catches air off a man-made “snow jump” while he sleds during Monday’s snow day.

from page B1

on board.

The truck has kitty litter (to create traction in icy conditions), children’s aspirin, EpiPens and a coffee pot. In an equipment trailer to the side of the station are dummies for rescue practice, a mass-casualty trailer for when resources are overwhelmed and a boat for water rescue.

The fire station’s work hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., which means no television and no sleeping.

“You see firefighters in the movies playing cards and gambling,” Rudolph said. “We have a strict ‘no gambling’ rule — we can’t even buy a Lotto ticket on duty.”

Like the movies, though, there is a fire pole that the firefighters can slide down from the sleeping area upstairs during overnight shifts.

“The newer guys use it more,” Rudolph said. “The ones who’ve been here longer just walk down the stairs.”

There aren’t any women on the HFD staff. The last one retired on disability leave last year. Instead of having two separate bathrooms, the department has one with a sign that can slide to either “men” or “women.”

“It’s like my second family here,” Rudolph said. “We try to keep it light and fun. The family camaraderie, the nice work schedule, helping people, the adrenaline rush and not knowing how busy or slow the day will be are all reasons why I love my job.”

Even the veterans who’ve been there for decades find themselves content where they are.

“Fire engines are switched out every 15 years, so I’m on my third now,” Manning said. “I’ve been in this job since 1979 and I’ve never ‘worked’ a day in my life.”

CONTACT Julian Kline at klinejd@dukes.jmu.edu.



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CHASE KIDDY

fanatic and proud

The power of branding

JMU men must find strength as a mid-major brand

There's something of a collegiate hierarchy for Richmond high school students.

U.Va. is on top of the pile, with many of the 804's best and brightest going off to study under statues of Thomas Jefferson and Godric Gryffindor. Then you've got the socially awkward Wil-

liam & Mary students; the overzealous JMU prospects, half of whom had parents in Harrisonburg once upon a time; the Virginia Tech acolytes, whose obsession with a pair of colors that just don't go together makes Kevin Bacon's "Following" look like a high school prom group.

Somewhere below that, below the Longwoods and Radfords, lies Virginia Commonwealth University.

VCU stood for a lot of things when I was a teenager, and very few of them were good. Everyone graduated in the Siegel Center, but outside of that? To be blunt, it usually meant your grades weren't terribly good, and you likely qualified for membership in the Underachievers Anonymous club.

That was back then. Now, VCU has made three straight NCAA tournament appearances, has a brilliant young coach in Shaka Smart and is the talk of the town around our fine state's capitol.

Branding is a uniquely powerful thing. For VCU, it's turned Hipster Mecca into a youthful basketball paradise. In Richmond, the VCU brand is churning at such an all-time high that Smart is turning down offers from real basketball powerhouses, like UCLA, just to stay in his local, momentous venue.

Pop quiz: When did all this VCU momentum start? If you said the 2011 Final Four trip, then guess again.

In 2007, former Ram and current NBA guard Eric Maynor hit a 15-foot jumper with under two seconds left to clinch a first-round upset of No. 6 Duke. It was VCU's first NCAA win since 1985, and it became a recruiting springboard that set up the 2011 run.

If all that sounds vaguely familiar, it's by design. JMU is at a similar crossroads right now. Off its first CAA championship in 19 years and its first NCAA win since the early '80s, JMU men's basketball team stands ready to capitalize on all the momentum that has been created over the past month. A 2017 trip to the national semifinals might be a stretch, but it isn't a long-shot to imagine that JMU, amidst turbulent realignment and expanding tournament fields, could rise from the dregs of irrelevance to become something of a niche powerhouse.

I have believed in Matt Brady for a long time. I'm proud to say that, on many days over the past two 18 months, it feels like I have been one of the few. I've heard whispers of contract negotiations between athletic director Jeff Bourne and Brady since the CAA championship game and expect he'll be signed to a long-term deal (fingers crossed for seven years!) by the middle of April.

From there, JMU simply much schedule more difficult matchups. Not only will it help foster a tougher team late in the season, but it will provide highly visible opportunities for upsets.

The Dukes need to make something their own. VCU has HAVOC pressure; JMU has a ridiculous montage of A.J. Davis dunks. The one-man occult of Andre Nation already looks poised to continue this tradition, so that a national general public will refer to JMU by name, rather than just "that one mid-major that dunks a lot."

Sorry, Florida Gulf Coast. You can always lock down the "that-one-coach-with-a-supermodel-for-a-wife" territory.

If JMU follows that blueprint, recruiting — the single most pivotal aspect of college basketball — will surely see an uptick in the quality of players. Even before this year, Brady had already done a fabulous job bringing in somewhat highly-graded prospects like Ron Curry, as well as undervalued commodities like Nation.

As a program, Brady and JMU are on the rise. We've got people's attention. It's time to take the next step.

Maybe in five years, JMU will be more than that college from Virginia with lots of teachers and pretty girls.

Chase Kiddy is a senior writing, rhetoric and technical communication major. Contact Chase at kiddyca@dukes.jmu.edu.

SOFTBALL



SEAN CASSIDY and MATT SCHMACHTENBERG / THE BREEZE

TOP Pitcher Jailyn Ford has the second-best win total in the CAA. **BOTTOM** Ford's favorite pitch is the rise ball to chase hitters out of the strike zone.



BRIAN PRESCOTT / THE BREEZE

By **ROBERT SULLIVAN**
contributing writer

Few freshmen overcome the jump to college and make as big of an impact as quickly as Jailyn Ford.

She is the only freshman in the Colonial Athletic Association with an earned run average under two. With a team-best 10-1 record in the circle, the freshman softball pitcher for the Dukes has helped lead the team to a 20-7 record.

Her accomplishments on the field aside, Ford's intangibles have helped her teammates.

"She's probably the best teammate I've ever had, she's a great person," said senior outfielder Jasmine Butler. "Anytime you need to be picked up or need anyone extra to throw or hit with you, she'll volunteer. She's a great person and her work ethic is ridiculous — she's always working hard."

On the field, Ford's favorite pitch is the rise ball to chase batters out of the strike zone. She tries to not overexert herself and take a simple approach when she's in the circle.

"I don't try to do too much because it seems like a waste of energy," Ford said.

"However, I do try to hide the ball in order to gain an advantage over the batter since it gives them less time to pick up the ball."

In her first career start on the mound in JMU's second game of the season against the College of Charleston on Feb. 15, Ford struck out six batters in a complete game shutout. Since then, she has become the leader of the Dukes' pitching staff.

The business management major already ranks among the top in several pitching and hitting categories for JMU. Along with having the best pitching record, Ford has the second-best earned run average at 1.55. At the plate, Ford has the third-best batting average on the team, hitting .354, along with the second-best home run total, on-base percentage and slugging percentage behind sophomore catcher and pitcher Sarah Mooney.

In a March 10 game against Coastal Carolina University, Ford struck out a team record of 16 batters. She broke the old record of 15 set by Meredith Felt in 2009.

see **FORD**, page B4

BASEBALL (14-9)

Dukes drub Flames in return home

JMU posts 21 runs for first time since March 2011 against Hofstra

By **STEPHEN PROFFITT**
The Breeze

JMU seemed to be taking batting practice during the middle of a game Wednesday afternoon as the Dukes obliterated the Liberty Flames, 21-4.

"We're not as good as that score and they're not as bad as that score," said head coach Spanky McFarland. "It's just one of those things. It kind of got ugly."

The bats started early and no one could save Liberty pitchers. It was an ideal baseball game for JMU as both bats and arms were on point.

"We're not as good as that score and they're not as bad as that score ... It's just one of those things. It kind of got ugly."

Spanky McFarland
Baseball head coach

Freshman Michael Church got the nod to start on Wednesday for JMU. It was his fourth start and eighth appearance on the year. Church went three and two-thirds innings, giving up no runs on three hits.

Due to NCAA rules, if a team declares that a game will be a staff day (using a lot of players throughout a game), a starting pitcher may earn the victory without throwing the traditional standard of five innings. Under these rules, Church



BECKY SULLIVAN / THE BREEZE

Pitcher Micheal Church improved his record to 3-1. He pitched into the fourth inning, allowing three hits and striking out two.

was credited with the win, his third. A quartet of bullpen relief prevented much of any Liberty damage.

"I hadn't pitched in a week and I brought my 'A' game, basically," Church said. "My curveball was looking good, and it worked out for me."

Sophomore Chad Carroll, who

has found his new home in left field, has been on his own self-promoted hit parade this season. Against Liberty, Carroll started off with a homer and then followed that up with a base on balls, single and a triple. He finished a double shy of the coveted cycle.

"[I was] just seeing it pretty well. I

felt good," Carroll said. "Just consistent work in the cage and at practice has really paid off."

Carroll finished the day three for five, with five RBIs and five runs scored. Both are also career highs.

The former JMU shortstop is

see **BASEBALL**, page B4

BASEBALL

Hot batting pushing JMU up in national rankings; five offensive categories in top 11

from page B3

batting a team high .431 after Wednesday and leads the nation with six triples.

"I feel comfortable out there," he said. "Whatever helps the team do well, I'm all for it."

A plethora of JMU batting categories rank nationally in the weekly NCAA statistics release. As of Monday, batting average (.323), scoring (8.4/game), runs (205), triples (17), slugging percentage (.470) and on-base percentage (.412) all rank in the top 11 in the nation.

Fourteen batters stepped to the plate for JMU Wednesday, and 12 reached base in some manor. The Dukes'

offensive explosion was out of control. JMU compiled its 21 runs on 19 hits. Both numbers were season-highs for the Dukes.

"Rather than ease up, we just get other kids to play so they can still play hard," McFarland said of the large lead.

Liberty sent a total of 11 pitchers to the mound on Wednesday. Prior to Liberty, JMU hadn't faced more than six pitchers.

"With young pitchers, you never know what you're going to get," McFarland said. "All mid-week games are adjustment days."

Three hitting streaks were extended Wednesday. Carroll and seniors Johnny Bladel

and Cole McInturff added to their double-digit totals — 11, 13 and 15 games, respectively.

The Dukes (13-9, 6-2 CAA) are on a roll as of late. JMU will ship up to Boston this weekend for a three-game conference series with Northeastern. The Huskies (12-11, 2-7 CAA) have yet to win a conference series this season.

"It was a good game. It was a fun game," McFarland said. "A lot of guys got in and got hits, but don't read too much into it. It's just a game that got out of hand, but I'd rather it get out of hand for us."

CONTACT Stephen Proffitt at proffijis@dukes.jmu.edu.

FORD

Two-time Player of the Week



SEAN CASSIDY and MATT SCHMACHTENBERG / THE BREEZE

Ford is making her mark at the plate as well. She is hitting .354 with 17 RBIs, 14 runs and five home runs.

from page B3

"I just focus on doing a little bit of everything," Ford said. "I just try to contribute whatever I can to the team to benefit so in the long run it'll come help us in the end. For me, it's a big part of my game because I can help the team out a little bit when some of us aren't hitting as well. It helps being a hitter and a pitcher both to help out our cause."

Whether on or off the softball field, Ford has always been an outdoor person. Away from softball, she enjoys things like hunting, kayaking and fishing. Her dad got her into tee-ball around age four, and this translated to softball in a few years' time.

Before signing with JMU, Ford was recruited by Boston College, Radford University and Virginia Tech. Va. Tech and JMU were her top two, but Ford just had a gut feeling that JMU was for her. She also wanted to become a part of JMU's softball tradition.

"It was really the environment of James Madison that helped me decide that this is really where I want to be," she

said. "Everybody is so friendly here and they're all really welcoming. I wanted to make an impact on this school more than Radford and Virginia Tech since we're more known for our softball here."

At Bath County High School in Hot Springs, Va., Ford was four-time Pioneer District Player of the Year, four-time First Team All-State, 2012 Virginia High School League East-West All Star Game MVP among other honors. She also helped Bath County win back-to-back Virginia Division I state championships. This year, she has already earned two Colonial Athletic Association Pitcher of the Week awards and two Rookie of the Week distinctions.

Ford is hoping to help JMU advance deep into the postseason.

"I hope as a team we can make it as far as we want to; personally and as a whole group we have our goals set high and if we accomplish that we can't be dissatisfied," Ford said.

The welcoming environment and also her experience playing on travel softball teams in high school has helped

Ford this year. They helped make the challenge of facing new competition every week and developing better time management as seamless as possible.

"The biggest difficulty has definitely been managing my time between softball and schoolwork, but it's gotten a lot easier after the first semester," Ford said.

Ford may be known to lift others up but the favor is returned. Her teammates have helped her develop the right frame of mind.

"I've told Jailyn to stay relaxed; players come to college thinking it's this whole new ballgame when really it's the same game you've always played," Butler said. "The main point of advice I could give her is to stay with her game."

As the Dukes begin their Colonial Athletic Conference schedule, Ford will play a part in keeping JMU at the top of the standing, where its currently tied with the University of Delaware and Georgia State University at 3-0.

CONTACT Robert Sullivan at sullivanrx@dukes.jmu.edu.

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